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15 June 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SMITH

Last month National Security Council agreed that CONGRESSIONAL DISCLOSURES OF CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF INFORMATION ARE DETRIMENTAL TO NATIONAL SECURITY, and directed Senior NSC Staff to prepare recommendations for Council consideration.

IN THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM, the Senior NSC Staff proposes that National Security Council recommend to the President that he direct letters to the Vice President and Speaker of the House of Representatives to:

- a. Indicate NSC concern over disclosures, felt to be detrimental to national security, of information concerned with internal security received by Congressional Committee in executive session, received in connection with hearings and later correlated and published in such form as to be of interest to subversive elements, obtained by members of Congress while observers in government operations, information of strategic and technological value distributed to Curtain countries by Library of Congress, and information issued in Government Printing Office publications available to the public.
- b. Recommend that Congress initiate steps to consider these problems.
- c. Offer to make available to Congress services of executive branch officials to aid in jointly arriving at solutions of problem.
- d. Express view that results of such a joint effort, looking toward identification and control of strategic information, would facilitate exchange of information between legislative and executive branches as well as release of information, where appropriate, to the public.


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**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON**

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June 15, 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Congressional Publication of Information
of Advantage to Foreign Governments

REFERENCES: A. Memo for NSC from Executive Secretary, *EX-804*
same subject, dated May 16, 1951
B. NSC Action No. 478

After consideration of the subject with the assistance of representatives of the White House Staff and the Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security, as well as the NSC Representative on Internal Security, the Senior NSC Staff proposes that the National Security Council recommend to the President that he direct letters to the Vice President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives along the following lines:

a. Indicating that the National Security Council has expressed to the President its concern over disclosures of information in the five categories listed in the enclosure to Reference A, which disclosures are felt to be detrimental to the national security.

b. Recommending that appropriate steps be initiated in the Congress with a view to considering these problems.

c. Since in some respects these problems are of joint concern to the legislative and executive branches, offering to make available to representatives of the Congress the services of competent officials in the executive branch to aid in jointly arriving at solutions of these problems.

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d. Expressing the view that the results of such a joint effort, looking toward identification and control of strategic information in the interests of national security would facilitate the exchange of information between the legislative and executive branches as well as the release of information, where appropriate, to the public.

JAMES S. LAY, Jr.
Executive Secretary

cc: The Secretary of the Treasury
The Attorney General
The Director of Defense Mobilization

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